

Abstract of the Disclosure

Printing apparatus includes print heads which are covered by a cover mechanism when the print heads are not in use. The cover mechanism is adapted to create a moist environment around the print heads saturated with vapors of an associated solvent. The printing apparatus also includes a purging system for the print heads. The purging system is adapted to cause the print heads to discharge a high-velocity stream of ink therethrough in response to selective manual actuation.